

NCNA HEADS AND TALES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

MOTTO— TO PROMOTE AND TO SERVE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATICS

"Thirty-First Issue"

October 1988

Volume VIII-Number 4

Editor

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1988 NCNA OFFICERS

Robert Mish	President
Ron Miller	First Vice-President
Maxine Hopperstad	Second Vice-President
Edward Sins	Treasurer
Brain Kestner	Secretary

DEADLINE FOR THIRTY-SECOND ISSUE December 20

THE MINT DIRECTOR'S PRONOUNCEMENTS: President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

First, our congratulations and appreciation to our members who contributed to the successful running of the 1988 NCNA Coin Show: Ron Miller, Ed Sins, Lillian Hooker, Constance Perham, Brian Kestner, and Thelma Krieg.

The bourse, security, and public attendance ran efficiently. There were no reported thefts nor robberies. We appreciate the performance of our new security firm, Positive Protection.

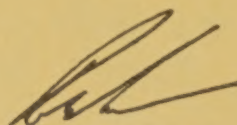
The attendance and impact of the Show, unfortunately, continues to be marginal. Dealer-to-dealer business tapers off after the first day, while collector activity is moderate at best. By Sunday, many of the dealers with tables have already left due to lack of business.

The Board is continuing to explore ideas to restore the prestige and importance of our Show back to its former level. Realistically, both national and local dealers no longer view the NCNA Show as a "must" nor as a place where major market action is reflected. Among the issues open to resolve are: (1) a possible new location; (2) expansion of the number of bourse tables; (3) change of dates; (4) restoration of a major auction.

Whether we are going to improve the Show or just maintain it as is, our organization must continue to recruit new members and encourage new activism among members present and future. Development of our educational activities, which I personally believe should be the primary NCNA activity, also depends upon a new activism.

At present, very few member clubs send representatives to NCNA Board meetings. Tell us what we can do to encourage club reps to attend and participate. Our next NCNA Board meeting is Sunday, November 19, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., at the San Jose Convention Center. Coffee, juice, and delicious muffins will be served. Please, let's have club reps present!

The office of NCNA Secretary is vacant. It is my position as President to appoint a new Secretary. This is a voting office on the Executive Board. All those interested in serving as Secretary (or club rep), please call me at (415) 324-9110. New blood welcome!



Robert Mish
President, NCNA

THE MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

My Friends,

Recently, someone inquired why I have yet to attend an American Numismatic Association (ANA) Convention. Until this inquiry, I had never really given it much thought but was sure that there were reasons that stopped me, certainly more than just indifference or laziness.

First is the cost and time. Regardless of my so-called wealth plus long Summer School Vacation, I am extremely reluctant to spend over a grand, which I really cannot afford, to travel and attend. I simply do not travel. Each August, I give much in hours to preparation for the new School Year plus attend BAYS--Bay Area Yearbook Seminar--which candidly is my only annual outing. Thus, the ANA cannot ignite me to spend the money nor give up BAYS which inevitably conflicts in dates.

Second is a personal complaint. Back in 1982 with one of my grandiose ideas and highly enthused, I wrote to the then Presidents of the American Numismatic Association (ANA) and American Philatelic Society (APS). Within a week, my letter received a kind, but negative, response from the APS President. I am still waiting for the ANA President's reply. This same person due to his position representing our hobby was invited to several of the Mint's striking ceremonies, and this only confirms what many of us do believe that the powerful do abuse the positions and eventually disregard those they are to lead and to serve. I will never forget what was an affront nor will forgive that ANA President.

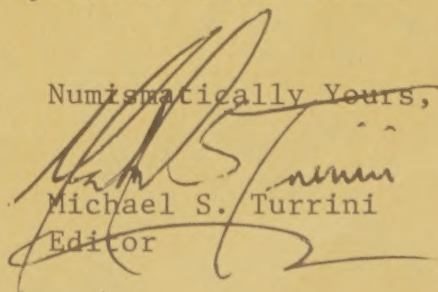
Third is somewhat related to the second. It is simply that I perceive, a view shared by others, that annual ANA Convention as a gathering of the three-piece suit mega-buck coin hobbyists--the well-known and well-off--not a place for the common Joe Blo coin hobbyists. The numismatic press coverage seems to emphasize the who at ANA Conventions and the record auction sales. The Convention is not considered in my viewpoint as one for all coin hobbyists.

Fourth and last is an objection. I object to the opinion that attending the Convention, or any other convention, is some measure of loyalty and dedication to our hobby. It seems to be a litmus test of who is or who is not for the coin hobby. I have more than enough evidence to prove my intense love and service to our hobby. If attending an ANA Convention is to confirm this love and service or help me gain some recognition or high honor, then you might know what I am thinking as an answer to that.

True, my arguments are personal and open to debate, which is why I have openly written them here, welcoming rebuttals. My closing point is that I look upon our hobby, to which I have given so much, to be at its best at the local level, where I have found joy, made true friends, and relaxed from the demands of our Age.

Yes, the same might happen if I attended, and yes, until I do attend I could be denying myself much; however, it is the hobby itself that excites and enthralls me. It is not attending conventions.

Numismatically Yours,


Michael S. Turrini
Editor

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GOLD MINER DIGGINGS: NCNA News and Happenings

Coin Club List

The latest List is included with this Issue. This important NCNA service depends upon the widest dissemination. Please share and make use of the List plus NCNA Members, both Individuals and Clubs, are urged to report to Your Editor any errors and updates. Please Use It!

1989 Coin Show and Exposition

As the President hinted in his Message, the 1989 28th Annual NCNA Coin Show and Exposition must likely will again be at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco. Efforts to locate another site have so far not been good. A new site must have a large Bourse area, parking, convention and hotel services, be competitive as to costs, etc. Exact dates and details for the 1989 Coin Show and Exposition will be announced later.

Coin Show Coordination

As announced in the July Issue, Ron Miller, NCNA's First Vice-President, remains willing to act as a clearinghouse and information source on local coin club coin shows with northern California. Coin clubs are urged to contact him with dates. Ron Miller may be reached at his coin shop, Fremont Coin Gallery, telephone '415-792-1511'.

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POSTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Jefferson Nite

Vallejo Coin Club To Honor Jefferson Nickel

The Vallejo Coin Club to celebrate the Golden Fiftieth (50th) Anniversary of our Jefferson Five Cent Coin, 1938-1988, will hold its 'Jefferson Nite' on November 2, 1988, first Wednesday evening, at 7:30pm, in the Green Room, main floor, of the Veterans' Memorial Building, corner of Alabama and Marin Streets, Vallejo.

Forty, a full-roll, 1950D choice uncirculated nickels will be the Door Prizes; only choice Jeffersons with two Wartime Sets will be in the Raffle; a special free wooden nickel will be given away, and good refreshments and displays will add to the Nite.

The highlight will be an inspirational and patriotic address on Thomas Jefferson by noted scholar Dr. Fred Stripp. Professor, author, orator, community activist, plus Scoutmaster, Dr. Stripp will speak on 'Jefferson', without notes or references quoting our Third President verbatim. Hearing his moving address is an reward alone.

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BRANCH MINT REPORTS: Club Happenings

Have been receiving bulletins, newsletters, or news releases from these Coin Clubs:

Stanislaus County Coin Club
Greater Houston Coin Club
Solano Silver Round Club
Alameda Coin Club
Reno Coin Club
Sacramento Valley Coin Club
Redwood Empire Coin Club
Napa Valley Coin Club
Fresno Numismatic Society
Peninsula Coin Club
Delta Coin Club
Gateway Coin Club
Fremont Coin Club
Liberty Numismatic Society
Cupertino Coin Club
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
Diablo Numismatic Society
Livermore Valley Coin Club
San Francisco Coin Club
Fairfield Coin Club
Vallejo Numismatic Society
San Jose Coin Club

Stanislaus County Coin Club Held its Annual Picnic recently, but no date nor location was reported in its SCCC Newsletter. However, it was reviewed that "It was amazing to note the number of potential (with a little practice) winning horseshoe pitchers in the club: HAL DEBOARD, LES FOSTERMAN, JOHN ANTHONY were among several in the Mens' Division; MARGARET ABID, Mrs. DEBOARD TAWNYA MEYER, and Mrs. FOSTERMAN in the Ladies' Division. I just know our club (with a little practice) could beat the heck out of any of the local clubs in the valley".

Greater Houston Coin Club The August Issue of its Double Shift was the twenty-fourth anniversary for the GHCC's monthly newsletter. The First Issue, August 1964, was reprinted for this anniversary and included. It was noted in that Opening Issue by then Editor CHRIS JOHNS: "Did you notice the name of our little effort? There will be a small prize for the first member to give me the reason this name was chosen for our Newsletter". Your Editor out here in California would like to know why that name was selected. Recent GHCC programs have been: September 15th, ARNOLD EFRON, Paper Money of Latin America, August 18th, CHARLES TEMPLETON, Coins of the Netherlands, and July 21st, MAUDIE BAKER, Coins of Australia plus a Swap Meet and large Bid Board, "triple-barreled evening" coordinated by GHCC Vice-President CHARLES TEMPLETON.

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SOLANO SILVER ROUND CLUB Plans to begin in 1989 a seven year series of an annual silver round commemorating the Fiftieth (50th) Anniversary of the Second World War, 1939-1945--1989-1995. This intended series is still in the planning stages; however, silver round collectors interested in subscribing are welcomed to contact SSRC via its President STAN TURRINI at "PO Box 4104, Vallejo, CA, 94590". The SSRC continues to meet each second Thursday at 7:00pm in Smorga's Bobs, 1720 Texas, Fairfield.

Alameda Coin Club Heard respected ACC Past President TOM KELLY at its August 9th Meeting with a slide illustrated talk on California Fractional Gold Coinage, an outstanding program. The new Editor for the ACC's Thick and Thin Times is HALIE KOONCE.

Reno Coin Club Had DOUGLAS MCDONALD present a slide program 'Name That Coin' at its June 7th Meeting, and at the July 5th Meeting, LAN SCHADE "kept the large audience entralled for nearly an hour as he showed more than 150 slides of his 1970 Hike over the Chilkoot Pass following in the footsteps of those in the 1898 Gold Rush". It was reported in the July Issue of the RCC's monthly bulletin that for the third year in a row the Reno Coin Club Newsletter has won an award from the American Numismatic Association (ANA). Recognition goes to the fine work of Editor DOUGLAS MCDONALD. Winners in the RUSTY KING Annual Prize Drawing, held at the June 7th Meeting, were: CHET RYAN, PAM SMITH, NATE YOUELL, CHIYO PETERSON, and ED HOFFMAN: "A heart-felt 'Thank You' was tendered to RUSTY for his generosity in creating this drawing".

Sacramento Valley Coin Club Heard BO BORICK at its July 27th Meeting review the 1970's GSA Sales of Carson City Silver Dollars. The June 22nd Meeting had JOHN GOMER showing a slide program 'Roman General: The Family of Septimus Severus'. The August 24th Meeting had FRED MEYER on English Coins from Elizabeth I to Elizabeth II. Now, that was a fine series of talks. The SVCC's 31st Annual Coin-O-Rama will be October 22 and 23, 1988 at the Expo Center, Cal-Expo, Exposition Blvd. and I-80, Sacramento. Exhibits are strongly encouraged; write to: "JOHN GOMER, 3445 American River Drive, Suite D, Sacramento, CA, 95864" or call '(916) 486-8755".

Redwood Empire Coin Club Your Editor notes that the RECC next March 1989 will have its Fortieth (40th) Anniversary, 1949-1989; any plans to commemorate this special event RECC? JOE PIA has at recent meetings give short talks: Recent Trips, June 1st, and Canadian Coins, August 3rd. The date for the RECC's 1989 Coin Show will be November 13th, Sunday. Details to follow.

Napa Valley Coin Club Had Life Member STAN TURRINI show slides at its June 15th Meeting of the NVCC's Annual Pot-Luck Dinner last April 22nd, then found this same member unable to attend the next two Meetings and thus losing in the Membership Drawing. The NVCC reports that its March 19, 1989 25th Annual Coin Show

will again be located at the Napa Town and Country Fairgrounds, contrary to earlier plans to relocate.

Fresno Numismatic Society It was reported in the September Issue of the Fresno Numismatist that "one of the top programs in the last five years" was given by PHIL NORDIN at the August 9th Meeting on Leper Colony Currency, at detailed review in layman's terms of leprosy and the currency used in Leper Colonies. The July 12th Meeting had DALE HEWLETT with a slide program on United States Copper Coinage.

Peninsula Coin Club Recent Meeting Themes have been: July 11th, Emergency Coins (Could someone from the PCC inform Your Editor and all of us what numismatic animal is 'emergency'?), August 8th, Odd Demoninations, and September 12th, Unpopular Coins. The PCC is interested in locating and corresponding with all Past Presidents of its Club. Please any previous President or other executive officer who may have moved away or dropped out of the hobby are urged to contact the PCC at "PO Box 60484, Palo Alto, CA, 94306".

Delta Coin Club Heard FRED YBARRA of Modesto talk on Foreign Coins at its recent September 9th Meeting. August 12th Meeting was the Annual Dog-of-Dogs Show 'n Tell; voted the worst looking coins were: HOWARD WESELY, Seated Liberty Dime, JOE INDERBITZEN, 1803 Large Cent, HOWARD WESELY, 1869S Seated Liberty Half Dollar, and JOSE TAGRE, a 1797 British Cartwheel Penny. The Annual Picnic for the DCC was last July 31st with winners in the Annual Egg-Toss Game were GREG DALPORTO and RAY HIRNING and BEE GRIMM winning being twenty-five off with her guess on the Pennies-In-The-Jar Contest.

Gateway Coin Club Reports that it has relocated its Meetings back to Guarantee Savings, 19th and M Streets, Merced. The GCC tried a different program at its September 15th Meeting: "Vocational Night--Our Program Chairman says he wants to find out what we do for a living (Boy, is he going to be surprised). So, members are supposed to be prepared to tell about their job or former jobs, if retired. Of course, one could always digress into their real vocation and talk about their collecting interest(s) at the same time, no doubt!". The August 17th Meeting had "something new, a TEAM QUIZ. Didn't do too well, but it showed promise. Had some laughs and good fellowship, after dividing into two competing teams. Stumbling block seemed to be creating the questions on the spot. Ended up with some real winners--to wit, one team queried the other on how many grapes were in the bag in front of them at their table."

Fremont Coin Club DON BARSI, renowned silver round authority and respected figure in northern California numismatics, reports the Exhibits Winners at the August 7th 16th Annual Coin Show: KEN BAUER, Best of Show, 'Value Me As You Pleas 'Sic'', GLENN JACOB, First Place, 'Commemorative Canadian Nickel Dollars',

FRANK WIECZOREK, Second Place, 'Racketeer Nickels', and KEN BARR, Third Place, 'National Bank Notes of San Jose'. Junior winner was DINO DANIELS, First Place, 'Wooden Nickels'.

Liberty Numismatic Society Heard at its June 7th Meeting ED FULWIDER on the Minting Problems With Silver Eagles. July 5th Meeting had BILL DAVIS present a Numismatic Trivia Quiz. August 2nd Meeting was the LNS' Annual Book Auction conducted by STEPHEN HUSTON. September 6th Meeting heard PETER HAMILTON on the Coin Industry. Each the month LNS has a Coin-of-the-Month Drawing: members bring that coin to the meeting for a winner-take-all drawing, July 5th Meeting was Pre-1930 Lincoln Cents, August 2nd had Mercury Dimes, and September 6th used 20th Century-Dated Indian Head Cents.

Cupertino Coin Club Heard KEN WOLFGRAM at its July 1st Meeting talk on '1931': "Our THANKS to KEN WOLFGRAM for an unusual and interesting program that related some of the events that occurred in '1931', his birth year. KEN brought in a copy of a December 13, 1931 newspaper which showed what was happening on 'his' day. For example, Hitler and Germany were grumbling about war reparations, Studebaker Automobile Company was pioneering safety window glass, and people were starting to experience the Great Depression. How would you like to buy a lounge chair for \$19.50, with 50¢ down and 85¢/week payments? KEN also explained how he could have been worth a quarter of a million dollars if his parents had bought and put away a mint sealed bag of 1931-S cents. This bag would have cost only \$50.00, but was a large sum in those days. He was not terribly unhappy that this did not occur because he is a collector who enjoys coins for the beauty of the coin and excitement of collecting". This idea can be applied by anyone to make a entertaining and educating program as well as a great collection of birth year coins. Your Editor commends KEN WOLFGRAM for his innovative program.

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society Has, as usual, two high quality speakers: its Vice-President HERB MILES, 'Anti-Slavery Coins', August 31st and beloved Past PCNS President LORI REPPETEAU, 'Where Is St. Katerine', July 27th. It was reported that young PCNS member MATTHEW ROCKMAN for his 'Coinage of Great Britain' in the October 1987 PCNS Journal won the First Annual Todd Gee Literary Award sponsored by the Canadian Numismatic Association (CNA) in memory to a young Canadian coin hobbyist who passed tragically away in 1985. PCNS reports in sadness that WILLIAM D. 'BILL' HENRY, noted scholar and frequent PCNS Journal author on Ancient Coins, passed away last August 7th.

Diablo Numismatic Society Remains active: July 21st was the DNS' Third Annual Picnic held at the exclusive FairAcre Estate at the foot of Mt. Diablo. DNS members and guests were hosted by prominent socialites and renowned retired football coach HART and BETTY FAIRCLOUGH at their FairAcre Estate. August 18th Meeting had a Coin Quiz with STEWART HUCKABY winning the Quiz

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and DR. NORTON GLOSSMAN winning the "appreciation of the Society for having the most entertaining answers". DNS reports its 27th Annual Diablo Coin Show will be December 11, 1988, 9:00am to 4:00pm, in the Concord Hilton, 1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord. A large Bourse, exhibits, Information Table, and drawing are planned. Admission is Free.

Livermore Valley Coin Club Writes that its closing season meeting last June 14th had a Pot-Luck Dinner. The LVCC now meets on the Third Tuesdays with the first new meeting on that date September 20th having ED KANSA talking on Mercury Dimes. To add to his talk, the LVCC had a 'Dime-A-Mania' with everyone encouraged to Show 'n Tell on some aspect of Mercury Dimes. In memory of beloved long-time LVCC member, that late RA BROWN, the LVCC made a donation to the Hope Hospice in Pleasanton.

San Francisco Coin Club Had RON JOHNSON, an avid railroad fan, talk on Locomotives at its July 26th Meeting, particularly his dedication to restoring Engine #2472 currently at the San Mateo County Fairgrounds. August 23th Meeting heard BILL KOONCE talk on Large and Fractional Currency.

Fairfield Coin Club Reports in sadness that its long-time benefactor GEORGE FLANAGAN passed away last May 23rd. The June 29th Meeting was the First Annual GEORGE FLANAGAN Memorial Auction to raise funds for the Club; a total of \$96.50 was hammered down. August 24th Meeting had 'Hot-Dog Night', a mini Pot-Luck with barbeque hot dogs provided by the Club plus a Coin Quiz with DR. HOWARD C. LONSDALE, First, ERNIE DRAKE, Second, and a two-way tie for Third between JOE SIROIS and MOSES REIS. The FCC has just issued its Second Medal to honor the Club on its Fifteenth (15th) Anniversary. A few one ounce .999 fine silver medals remain available at \$20.00 each postpaid. Bronze medals are \$2.50 each postpaid. Send orders with remittance in full to: "STAN TURRINI, FCC Medals, PO Box 4104, Vallejo, CA, 94590".

Vallejo Numismatic Society Had a 'Mega-Bingo' at its July 6th Meeting in which twenty lucky winners claimed silver Eagles and JAN HENKE won a 1987 Prestige Set in the Black-Out. At the August 3rd Meeting, it was Dog-Eat-Dog having JAN HENKE, MIKE ROBINSON, DR. HOWARD C. LONSDALE, JOSEF KLAUS, BOB KECK, MOSES REIS, MIKE STANLEY, and STAN TURRINI sharing in the Show 'n Tell. September 7th Meeting heard DIRK SMIT speak on the 'Titanic'. An avid student of the sea's greatest disaster who has met and conversed with Titanic survivors, his talk was highly received. The Vallejo Coin Club proudly announces its 1989 17th Annual Vallejo Coin Show next April 30, 1989 at the usual location in Dan Foley Cultural Center, Dan Foley Park, Tuolumne Street at North Camino Alto, Vallejo. A full-day multi-event with an All Gold Coin Drawing having seventeen prizes, a forty-plus table Bourse, youth activities, Information Table, exhibits, free coin newspapers, free woods, refreshments, plus a great view of MarineWorld/Africa-USA. For additional information, write

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to: "VNS, PO Box 4281, Vallejo, CA, 94590". Please note that
the VNS's 1989 Vallejo Coin Show will be the 17th, not 18th
as previously reported.

San Jose Coin Club Had Other Hobbies Night at its July 13th Meeting
with: TIM ARCHER, Sorcerer's Apprentice Items, KEN BARR, Bank-
note Literature, DON BARSII, Shirts, MARK CLARK, Pre-Columbian
Indian Pottery, SALLY JOHNSON, Barbie Dolls, MARSHALL MYERS,
not recorded in newsletter, NORM RAGAN, Amateur Radio, and ED
SINS, Lionel Locomotive. The June 8th Meeting heard KEN BARR
on Souvenir Cards describing "the various types of souvenir
cards" with "examples of each from his own superb collection
including a number of antiquities". The September 14th SJCC
Meeting was an historic milestone, its 500th Meeting, having
been founded back in 1946. Each SJCC member attending this
milestone Meeting received a limited edition medal commemorat-
ing the special event. Your Editor for both himself plus NCNA
extends to SJCC our most sincere congratulations on this re-
nowned event, wishing the SJCC to reach another five hundred
meetings!!!

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POSTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Two Coin Shows This November 13th

Two Conflicting Coin Shows

Regretfully, there are two coin shows this November 13th, the second
Sunday: the Redwood Empire Coin Club's 21st Annual Coinarama and the
Peninsula Coin Club's Annual Coin Show.

The Redwood Empire Coin Club's show will be hours 10.00am to 5:00pm
at the Veterans' Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa,
California. Bourse write to: 'Bill Feist, PO Box 2811, Santa Rosa,
CA, 95405'. Their next year's coin show will be November 12, 1989.

The Peninsula Coin Club's coin show will also be hours 10:00am to
5:00pm at the Hyatt Palo Alto, 4290 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, Cal-
ifornia. Information write to: 'Peninsula Coin Club, PO Box 60484,
Palo Alto, CA, 94306'.

Needless to say, all NCNAers are urged to attend either.